



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE  
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH  
BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20014

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

May 15, 1974

Dr. Joshua Lederburg  
Stanford University Medical Center  
300 Pasteur Drive  
Stanford, CA 94305

Dear Dr. Lederburg:

I would like to report to you on the site visit to your project on April 26. There was general approval of your project and your presentation. However, as a result of the consensus of the site visitors, I would like to request that you send to me a clinical proposal as soon as possible.

This proposal should indicate what type of patient with cancer will be studied (it is likely that patients with fairly extensive tumors but without fever, emaciation, anemia, uremia or malaise would be the ideal types to be studied). It should indicate the prestudy regimen (i.e., diet, drugs or other factors), how specimens will be collected, how stored and other factors that would influence the evaluation of specimen examination. Will multiple samples of urine (24 hours) be studied? And if so, at what intervals?

The protocol should indicate how controls will be chosen. It is suggested that controls should be of similar age, sex, weight, but without evidence of cancer and studied in a manner similar to the patients with cancer. Controls need not be "matched;" but if not, then suitably randomized.

I would like to state that it was suggested that the emphasis should be on quality rather than on quantity; perhaps groups of ten, all with the same disease and approximate extent of the disease, who are well studied, should form the basis of the clinical approach.

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Your request for a budgetary increase has been noted and transmitted to the contract officer who by now probably has begun negotiations.

I was sorry I was unable to accompany the other site visitors. Perhaps at some time in the near future I will be able to visit your project area.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William Pomerance", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

William Pomerance, M.D.  
Chief, Diagnosis Branch  
Division of Cancer Biology and Diagnosis  
National Cancer Institute